

# KRISTI DISNEY BRUCKNER

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Kristi Disney Bruckner is an attorney licensed in Colorado, specializing in environmental law and policy, and international resources transactions law and policy. She is an Adjunct Professor of Law at the University of Denver Sturm College of Law, where she teaches Global Climate Change Law and Policy, and Sustainable Development and International Trade. Ms. Bruckner currently serves as the Executive Director at Sustainable Development Strategies Group (SDSG), where she develops and implements programs focused on human rights, extractive industries, and sustainable development. These programs include seminars that build the capacity of developing country governments to negotiate and manage natural resource development agreements; workshops to educate government, community and industry stakeholders about roles, rights and responsibilities in mine development initiatives; preparation of validation reports for the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) and assessment reports for the Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals, Metals, and Sustainable Development; and university-based seminars and internship programs that build the skills of professional leaders around the globe to more sustainably manage natural resources. Prior to her work with SDSG, Ms. Bruckner utilized her background in social work, journalism, and economics to work collaboratively with governments and NGOs on international trade and development issues. She also worked for a leading environmental and personal injury law firm based in New York City.

## LEGAL EXPERIENCE

### **University of Denver Sturm College of Law, Denver, Colorado 2011–Present**

#### *Adjunct Professor and Lecturer*

- Adjunct Professor (2015 – Present) Sustainable Development and International Trade Seminar, Climate Change Law and Policy Seminar
- Lecturer (2011 – 2015) SDSG Sustainable Development of Natural Resources series, including: Emerging International Framework for the Sustainable Development of Natural Resources, National Legislation and Policy for Sustainable Development of Natural Resources, and Community Expectations for Sustainable Development in Natural Resources Projects

### **Sustainable Development Strategies Group (SDSG), Gunnison, CO 2010–Present**

#### *Executive Director (2013–Present); Director of International Programs (2011–2013); Law Clerk (2010)*

- Legal Expert for the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) – Cameroon Development Minerals Programme
- Public Engagement Team Member for the Government of Northwest Territories, Canada
- Member of the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) Intergovernmental Forum Mining Policy Framework Assessment Team: assessed law and policy frameworks of the Dominican Republic, Mongolia, and Uganda, and participated in follow-up capacity building programs for governments and other stakeholders in each country.
- Member of SDSG's Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) Validation Team, completed 2013 Validation Report for EITI Guatemala; completed reviews of EITI 2015 Pilot Validation Reports for Ghana, Mongolia, São Tomé and Príncipe, Solomon Islands, and Timor-Leste; completed 2016 Validation Reports for Azerbaijan, Ghana, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Mongolia, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, São Tomé & Príncipe, Solomon Islands, Tajikistan, and Timor-Leste
- Coordinate SDSG Internship Program, supervising relevant research and major writing projects of SDSG interns and fellows from schools in Colorado, USA and around the world
- Team member and Coordinator, *Improving Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining Practices in the Dominican Republic*, a World Bank-funded program that provided support to the Government of the Dominican Republic
- Presenter and Coordinator, World Bank *Training Course on the Negotiation of Mine Development Agreements*, including curriculum development and a regional five-day course conducted in Tanzania, Burkina Faso, and Tunisia
- Worked on Community Development Agreements policy with government ministries in Afghanistan and Mongolia; worked on mining legislation and policy evaluations for Ecuador, Honduras, Germany, and Mozambique
- Conducted five-day course on mine development agreements, Community Development Agreements, and sustainable development for Universal Network Intelligence (UNI Strategic) in Malaysia, attended by attorneys and executives from across Southeast Asia
- Co-produced social and political risk assessments related to mine developments in the Philippines and Argentina
- Lecturer, seminar on *Mining and Community Development*, University of Dundee Centre for Energy, Petroleum & Mineral Law & Policy; Presenter, *Mining and Community Development*, a five-day course for the Mozambique Ministry of Mineral Resources

- Presenter, *Human Rights and Extractive Industries*, a six-day course with the American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative, Papua New Guinea's Department of Justice, and local NGOs in Papua New Guinea; Worked with Revenue Watch Institute and Samdhana Institute to develop a workshop for stakeholders in the Philippines on Community Development Agreements, human rights frameworks, and revenue transparency
- Served as Principal Law Clerk on the International Bar Association (IBA) Model Mine Development Agreement (MMDA) Version "1.0," a template for negotiation of sustainable mine development agreements; assisted with stakeholder consultations in Canada and Kazakhstan; designed consultation website: [www.MMDAProject.org](http://www.MMDAProject.org)

**University of Denver Sturm College of Law Moot Court Programs**, Denver, Colorado 2013–Present  
*Judge, Memorial Reviewer*

- Judge, Memorial Reviewer for Jessup International Law Moot Court Rocky Mountain Regional Rounds, 2013–2015
- Judge for Stetson International Environmental Law Moot Court North America Round, 2014

**CLE International**, Denver, Colorado 2015 – Present  
*Program Attorney*

- Coordinate educational conferences on environmental law and other current topics for US-based attorneys, engineers, and other professionals

**Levy Konigsberg, LLP**, New York, New York, 2004–2007, 2016  
*Contract Attorney (2016), Legal Assistant (2004–2007)*

- Assisted with environmental toxic tort claims by conducting intakes, researching and documenting exposure histories, organizing and maintaining client files and exhibits, and assisting with trials
- Coordinated economic and environmental expert reports and trial witnesses
- Drafted and served answers to interrogatories and pre-trial orders

**Center for International Environmental Law**, Washington, D.C. Fall 2010  
*Legal Intern*

- Completed a comprehensive review of environmental impact assessments, financing, community consultations, environmental law, and transboundary water & air quality impacts of a World Bank energy development project
- Conducted research and prepared memos on the role of international financial institutions (IFIs) in energy development, particularly to encourage IFIs to dedicate more funds to renewable energy projects
- Prepared memos related to international laws and policies, including nanotechnology, freedom of information, use of webcasting in judicial proceedings, and international environmental governance

**University of Denver Sturm College of Law**, Denver, Colorado, 2009–2010

*International & Comparative Environmental Law Research Assistant for Professor George "Rock" Pring*

- Researched and drafted "Environmental Impact Assessment in the United States under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969," published in *The Legal Nature of Environmental Impact Assessment: Comparative Law Analysis*, José Juan González Márquez, ed., by the Mexican Institute for Research in Environmental Law (2011)
- Assisted with research and editing of *Greening Justice: Creating and Improving Environmental Courts and Tribunals* by George (Rock) Pring and Catherine (Kitty) Pring, Access Initiative (2009), helped maintain current information for the related DU Environmental Courts and Tribunals Study, see <http://www.law.du.edu/index.php/ect-study>
- Assisted with scholarly reviews, lecture revisions, and research in international environmental law and energy law

**Rocky Mountain Survivors Center**, Denver, Colorado, 2007–2009

*Paralegal/Administrative Assistant*

- Assisted survivors of torture and war trauma with asylum claims and immigration matters, including client intakes, appropriate U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services applications, and referral to attorney services
- Coordinated monthly Continuing Legal Education trainings focused on asylum law, and provided other recruiting, research, training, and administrative support for RMSC's Pro Bono Attorney Network and RMSC Legal Interns
- Managed volunteers and auction donations for annual fundraising gala, and developed donor newsletter content

**OTHER EXPERIENCE**

**Tennessee Economic Renewal Network**, Knoxville, Tennessee, 2000–2004

*Fair Trade & Globalization Program Coordinator*

- Researched, created and facilitated public education programs on international trade and sustainable development

- Coordinated international exchanges amongst scholars and community leaders in the U.S., Mexico, Canada, India, Nigeria, Columbia, and Brazil, exploring the impacts of U.S. foreign policy and international trade agreements
- Built and strengthened diverse local, national and hemispheric coalitions that worked to make international trade agreements more beneficial to low-income workers, rural communities, and the environment

## **EDUCATION**

### **University of Denver Sturm College of Law, Denver, Colorado**

Environmental and Natural Resources Law Program

J.D./LL.M May 2011

Specializations achieved in Environmental Law & Policy; International Resources Transactions Law & Policy

*Awards* Donnell Initiative Fund, Selected as DU SCOL Donnell Fellow for work in public interest law, 2014  
DU Student Bar Association “Most Outstanding Evening Student” Award, 2010

*Scholarships* Colorado Hispanic Bar Association Scholarship Recipient, 2010–2011  
Public Interest Law Group Clerkship Recipient, 2010

*Moot Court* DU Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot Team Member, Spring 2010  
DU Natural Resources Law Society Moot Court Competitor, Spring 2010

*Activities* Public Interest Law Group Clerkship Committee Co-Chair, 2010–2011  
DU Alternative Spring Break Legal Volunteer, Navajo Nation, New Mexico, Spring 2010  
DU Alternative Dispute Resolution Society International Law Liaison, 2010

### **University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee**

Bachelor of Science in Social Work (Minors in Journalism and Economics) August 2000

*Awards* UT “Torchbearer” Award, Presented to UT’s Top 10 Graduating Student Leaders, 2000; University of Tennessee College of Social Work Academic Achievement Award, 2000; Gamma Kappa Chapter of Gamma Sigma Sigma “Kristi Disney Outstanding Service Award,” (Now Presented Annually to Honor One UT Student for Outstanding Community Service), 2000; Anderson Consulting/UT Peer Achievement Award for Leadership in Service, 1999; Gamma Sigma Sigma National Distinguished Service Award, 1999; Gamma Sigma Sigma National Outstanding Undergraduate Award, 1998; Designated UT “Volunteer of the Year,” 1998; UT Chancellor’s Citation for Extraordinary Community Service, 1997, 1998

*Scholarships* Tennessee Higher Education Commission Love Community Service Scholarship, 1999; Vic Davis/Earl Zwingle Extracurricular Service Scholarship, 1999; John and Louise Harrison Social Work Scholarship, 1999; UT Alumni Association Valedictorian Scholarship Award, 1994

*Activities* United Nations Humanitarian Aid Delegation Participant, Havana, Cuba, 2000; Global Children’s Organization Volunteer, Croatia; Bosnia-Herzegovina; Northern Ireland, 1999; Missionaries of Charity Volunteer, Kolkata/Calcutta, India, 1998

### **Cemanahuac Educational Community, Cuernavaca & Buena Vista de Cellular, Mexico**

Advanced Spanish Language Certificate; Rural Studies Certificate Summer 2002

**Spanish Language Institute, Boulder, Colorado; Spanish Course Completion Spring 2014**

## **PUBLICATIONS**

- *Community Development Agreements in Mining Projects* in Denver Journal of International Law & Policy, June 2016
- Co-author, *Planning for the Economic Future of Colorado’s Coal Communities*, Sustainable Development Strategies Group and The Mountain Pact, June 2016
- Co-author, *Uganda: Assessment of Implementation Readiness—Supporting Implementation of the Mining Policy Framework in Member States of the Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals, Metals and Sustainable Development*, International Institute for Sustainable Development, March 2015
- Co-author, *IISD Methodology to Assess Government Implementation of the IGF Mining Policy Framework*, International Institute for Sustainable Development, December 2014
- Co-author, *Dominican Republic: Assessment of Implementation Readiness—Supporting Implementation of the Mining Policy Framework in Member States of the Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals, Metals and Sustainable Development*, International Institute for Sustainable Development, March 2015
- Co-author *Validation of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative—Guatemala*, Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative, November 2013

- Co-author *Model Mining Development Agreement—Template*, International Institute for Sustainable Development, May 2012
- Co-author and editor *Grassroots Action for Global Change: Resources for Community-Based Organizers in Appalachia*, Highlander Research and Education Center, December 2005
- Co-author and editor *Global Activist's Handbook: Local Ways to Change the World*, a guide to transforming corporate globalization. New York: Thunder's Mouth Press/Nation Books, April 2002

## **BAR ADMISSIONS**

- State of Colorado 2012

## **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

- American Bar Association
- American Society of International Law
- Colorado Bar Association (International Law Section Board of Governors Representative 2016–2018; International Law Section Co-Chair 2014–2016; Young Lawyers Division Executive Council 2013–2015)
- Colorado Bar Foundation Fellow
- Colorado Women's Bar Association, Circle of Minerva 2016–2017
- Denver Bar Association
- International Bar Association